

These efforts have garnered well-deserved recognition. Among other accolades, IMCC has been named one of the “Best Small Charities in the Washington Region” by the Catalogue for Philanthropy three times and was honored to be recognized as Adult Day Center of the Year from the National Adult Day Services Association in 2013.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating IMCC for 30 years of success and in thanking its staff, volunteers, and supporters for their service to our community.

#### SUPPORT OF THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE'S NATIONAL TRADEMARK EXPO

**HON. JAMES P. MORAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 17, 2014*

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my support of the United States Patent and Trademark Office's (USPTO) National Trademark Expo, an important educational event that advances the USPTO's mission to deliver intellectual property information and education to the public. In a time of ongoing challenges for the American and global economy, I want to join the USPTO in its efforts to recognize the vital role that trademarks play in the economy.

The USPTO disseminates trademark information at the Expo to educate the public about the important role that trademarks play in our society and the global marketplace. This year's two-day event will be held on Friday, October 17th, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and Saturday, October 18th, from 10:00 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the USPTO headquarters in Alexandria, Virginia. Attendees learn about trademarks from exhibitors, displays, seminars, children's workshops and activities. Seminars cover topics such as intellectual property for business, the trademark registration process, and the importance of buying authentic goods.

A broad cross-section of America's large corporations, small businesses, governmental agencies, and non-profit organizations will highlight valuable information about trademarks, from the various types of trademarks available to their benefits. Exhibitors at the National Trademark Expo will include: 5-hour ENERGY; 1000 Cranes, LLC; American Bar Association; American Girl, LLC; American Intellectual Property Law Association; BERG USA; Canon U.S.A., Inc.; Caterpillar Inc.; City of Falls Church (Virginia) Economic Development Authority; Girl Scouts of the USA; Hershey Chocolate & Confectionery Corporation (the Hershey Company); Hooray for Books!; Idaho Potato Commission; Indian Arts and Crafts Board, U.S. Department of the Interior; International AntiCounterfeiting Coalition (IACC); International Trademark Association—Unreal Campaign; Looshes Labs LLC; Microsoft; NASA Goddard Space Flight Center's Innovative Technology Partnerships Office; National Intellectual Property Rights Coordination Center (IPR Center); NumbersAlive!; Rita's Ice, Custard, Happiness; Smithsonian Institution; Sweet Frog Premium Frozen Yogurt; The LEGO Group; The National Institute on Deafness and Other Communications Disorders; The Pepsom Group, Inc.; The United States

Foundation for Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology (FIRST); The University of Notre Dame du Lac; Uber Technologies; United Parcel Service Inc.; United States Air Force; U.S. Chamber of Commerce; Valvoline; Volcom, Inc.; YMCA of Metropolitan Washington; and Zoomph. Anson Williams, who starred in the television show *Happy Days* and now is an entrepreneur and director, will speak about the importance of trademarks to business at the opening ceremony.

On average, people encounter 1,500 trademarks each day. In a time of globalization, counterfeit goods pose an increasing threat to American businesses and jobs, and trademarks assist the public in discerning between authentic and counterfeit merchandise. Counterfeit goods cost the United States billions of dollars and countless jobs annually, as well as undermine consumer confidence in brand integrity when purchasers encounter knock-off goods of inferior quality.

The first National Trademark Expo took place over 25 years ago in Washington, DC. Since then, the Expo has educated thousands of people on the importance of trademarks. I applaud the USPTO for its continued efforts to educate the public on the important role of trademarks and the benefits of federal registration through the Expo. I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the USPTO, at this time when trademark protection and intellectual property rights play an increasingly important role in our global economy. And, I encourage the public and my fellow Members of Congress and staff to bring their family and friends to this free, family-friendly event.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF M. L. HARRIS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH'S 142ND ANNIVERSARY

**HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 17, 2014*

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to extend my sincere congratulations to the congregation and leadership of M. L. Harris United Methodist Church in Columbus, Georgia, as the church observes its 142nd anniversary. The members of this parish will come together in a day of worship and celebration of this occasion on Sunday, October 26, 2014.

The origins of M. L. Harris can be traced back to 1872, when a group of like-minded individuals met regularly under grape arbors and anywhere else they could to praise and worship the Lord. These individuals met for an entire decade before being granted a plot of land which they could call their own by the Georgia General Assembly. The church was built at 640 6th Avenue in Columbus, Georgia and was named “Simpson Chapel Methodist Episcopal Church” after Bishop Matthew Simpson, a prominent bishop of the time.

The Simpson Chapel continued to operate for nearly a century, until the congregation's leaders decided it was time to make a change if the Church was going to continue to grow and prosper. Through the faith, effort and charitable donations of many dedicated souls, a new church building was erected within three years at Bedford St. and Old Cusseta Road in Columbus. The church was renamed

to “M. L. Harris Methodist Church,” in honor of the wonderfully generous contributions made by Bishop Marquis L. Harris over the course of the church's construction.

At the time M. L. Harris was built, African-American congregations were not recognized as part of the general conference, and thus were grouped together in the Central Jurisdiction. M. L. Harris remained in the separate conference until 1967, at the culmination of the Civil Rights Movement, when the Evangelical United Brethren and the Methodist Church merged into the United Methodist Church. One of the terms of the merger ordered the end of segregation within the denomination, and M. L. Harris subsequently became M. L. Harris United Methodist Church.

M. L. Harris would see many great pastors over the years, but perhaps the most notable was Reverend William B. Howell, whose strong leadership enabled tremendous growth within the congregation, reaching a record 373 members. During his tenure, many changes were made to the church, including structural renovations and the implementation of youth programs. Today, the church continues to grow under the spiritual guidance of Reverend Walter C. Lundy, Sr.

The story of M. L. Harris United Methodist Church, which began as a small group of people worshipping in the shade of a grape arbor 142 years ago and has grown into a modest, yet successful congregation, stands out as an exemplary display of the dedication and perseverance of a faithful and united group of people who put all their love and trust in the Lord.

Mr. Speaker, today I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to M. L. Harris United Methodist Church in Columbus, Georgia for their long history of coming together through the good and difficult times to praise and worship our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. The congregation may be small in number, but it is great in spirit and truly lives up to the church's motto that declares M. L. Harris as “The Church Where Everybody is Somebody and God is ALL.”

#### RECOGNIZING THE LEADERSHIP OF SENATOR EDUARDO BHATIA

**HON. ALAN GRAYSON**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 17, 2014*

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, to recognize Eduardo Bhatia. Mr. Bhatia is a Puerto Rican politician and Senator.

Bhatia obtained his Bachelor's degree in Government and Public Policy from the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs in 1986. In May 1986, Bhatia was awarded a Fulbright scholarship to study law, economics and politics in Santiago, Chile for one year. He graduated from Stanford Law School in June 1990 where he founded and edited the “Stanford Journal of Law and Policy”, an academic publication with an emphasis on the development of new laws and public policy. He is admitted to practice law in Florida, Washington D.C. and The Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

After graduating, Bhatia worked for a year as a Judicial Officer for Judge Levin H. Campbell, at the United States Court of Appeals for

the First Circuit in Boston, Massachusetts. From 1991 to 1992, he was the Chief of Staff for the Resident Commissioner of Puerto Rico, Jaime Fuster, in Washington, D.C. Bhatia is also the former Executive Director of the Puerto Rico Federal Affairs Administration in Washington D.C. As the Executive Director, he officially represented the Governor of Puerto Rico on important issues affecting the Commonwealth.

Bhatia was elected as an official Senate candidate in the Popular Democratic Party (Partido Popular Democrático or PPD) primary on March 9, 2008. At the 2008 general elections, Bhatia won one of only five Senate seats obtained by his party.

At the 2012 primaries, Bhatia won the most votes, securing his spot for the general elections. He then won the most votes of all the PPD candidates to the Senate. After the win, Bhatia was elected by his colleagues as the fifteenth President of the Senate of Puerto Rico.

In 2013, Bhatia served as Co-Chair of the Eastern Regional Conference of the Council of State Governments (CSG-ERC). Later that year, he was elected as President of the National Hispanic Caucus of State Legislators (NHCSL), becoming the first Senate President to hold the title. Bhatia is also a board member of several organizations, including the Council of State Governments (CSG) and the National Association of Latino Elected Officials (NALEO).

I am honored to recognize Senator Eduardo Bhatia, during Hispanic Heritage Month, for his leadership and commitment to serving the Puerto Rican and Hispanic-American communities.

#### 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SUFFOLK COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

**HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 17, 2014*

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 50th Anniversary of the Suffolk County Soil and Water Conservation District. Since 1964, the Suffolk County Soil and Water Conservation District has actively developed and implemented specialized projects and educational programs to improve, protect, and preserve Suffolk County's most treasured natural resources.

Suffolk County's thriving agriculture has been assisted by the conservation efforts of the Suffolk County Soil and Water Conservation District in partnership with the local communities and landowners, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Long Island Farm Bureau, the Cornell Cooperative Extension and Research Lab, the New York State Soil and Water Conservation Committee, the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, and the New York Association of Conservation Districts.

As a result of this collaboration, Suffolk County leads the rest of our great state in market value of crop production, including sod, grapes, nursery stock, aquaculture, and specialty crops. The County can also be proud of flourishing agricultural tourism, known for at-

tracting thousands of visitors to wineries, greenhouses, and seasonal pumpkin picking.

Consisting of over 600 farms spanning 35,000 acres, Suffolk County farms form the pillar of the East End economy and contribute millions of dollars to the Long Island and New York state economies, supporting local jobs and igniting economic growth across the region. This success is sustainable with the help of the Suffolk County Soil and Water Conservation District and can help further propel Long Island's continuing economic recovery.

Mr. Speaker, helping local farmers secure federal aid and educating them about building green infrastructure are just some of the many critically important functions of the Suffolk County Soil and Water Conservation District, which remains dedicated to the success of Long Island farmers and small businesses, and why it is an honor to offer my congratulations on the occasion of its fiftieth anniversary.

#### VETERANS' COMPENSATION COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENT ACT OF 2014

SPEECH OF

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 16, 2014*

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of S. 2258, the Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2014.

Mr. Speaker, it is an undeniable truth that our military veterans deserve our deepest gratitude for the courage and valor they demonstrated while defending the United States of America.

One way the nation can express its deepest appreciation for our service men and women is by assisting disabled veterans with compensation and financial support.

The VA estimated that it will provide compensation to over 4 million beneficiaries in FY 2014.

Among the veterans estimated to receive such compensation are:

136,897 World War II veterans  
140,169 Korean War veterans  
1,327,348 Vietnam-era veterans  
1,546,030 Gulf War-era veterans  
695,574 veterans who served during peacetime

Close to half of the nearly 2 million veterans of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan have or will seek compensation for service-related injuries, including post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).

We must be certain that disability compensation provides adequate assistance to veterans, and this bill does so by increasing the amounts paid by the same cost-of-living adjustment that will be payable to Social Security recipients.

Mr. Speaker, not only does S. 2258 benefit our injured veterans, it also helps the families of these injured service members by providing increased compensation for dependents and surviving spouses.

By passing S. 2258, countless veterans and their families would have financial stress alleviated thanks to increased rates of veterans' disability compensation.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly urge all members to support the passage of S. 2258 to ensure that

all of our courageous veterans receive adequate disability compensation.

TRIBUTE TO MR. BRENDAN  
BERNARD FRANCIS MCKAY

**HON. ZOE LOFGREN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 17, 2014*

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, it is with a very heavy heart that I share this obituary of an outstanding young American, Mr. Brendan Bernard Francis McKay.

Brendan, 30, passed away Monday, September 8, 2014, in Rome, Italy, following a tragic accident.

An AmeriCorps volunteer, artist, multi-instrumentalist, snowboarder, world traveler, counselor, historian, Ph.D. candidate, and Seanchai in the Irish storytelling tradition, Brendan was born June 30, 1984 in Summit, New Jersey, the second of Bernard and Mazy McKay's four children. He grew up in Alexandria and McLean, Virginia, where he graduated from McLean High School in 2002.

Brendan began undergraduate studies at Virginia Commonwealth University, later attended Western Connecticut State University and John Cabot University in Rome, and in 2012 graduated magna cum laude from Rhode Island College with a Bachelor's in History. Most recently, Brendan completed his Master's degree in International Relations at St. John's University in Rome, Italy in June 2014.

Throughout his teens and early twenties, Brendan struggled with addiction issues. With the support of loved ones, he participated in therapeutic and rehabilitation programs in Utah, New York, Pennsylvania, Florida, and Kansas. In 2008, Brendan emerged from this period secure in his recovery, and with a renewed passion for education, adventure, and experience which would come to define the rest of his life.

From 2008–2010, Brendan served with AmeriCorps as a volunteer with Big Brothers, Big Sisters in Worland, Wyoming. Within a matter of months he was promoted to Vice President of Development, going on to raise hundreds of thousands of dollars on behalf of at-risk youth, before leaving to accept a position as an AmeriCorps Program Manager in Rhode Island. Before leaving Wyoming he was urged by locals in Worland to stay and run for mayor. He was flattered and seriously considered it.

Brendan is remembered fondly by his loved ones in the U.S. and around the world for his legendary sense of humor, a classic Irish storyteller vividly sharing his many adventures. He ran with the bulls in Pamplona, Spain. He rode a hot air balloon through the Atlas Mountains of Morocco. He skied across the Swiss-French border in the Alps, not entirely on purpose. Completing an Asian journey that included Malaysia, Cambodia and Nepal, he returned to Rome over the Himalayas and Mt. Everest. He crisscrossed the United States by car, camped in the badlands of North Dakota, and lived on a mountain in Southern California. During academic travel to North Korea he became one of only a small number of Americans to have seen the demilitarized zone from the north side.